1-17.　　(Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A computer executable method for resolution of a negotiation between two or more parties including one or more issues to be resolved, operative to control one or more computers and stored on at least one computer readable medium, the method when executed by said one or more computers comprising the steps of:

a)　　　　receiving in at least one of said computers <u>through at least one graphical interface</u> one or more proposals for agreement from each of said parties in said negotiation regarding the one or more issues to be resolved;

b)　　　　generating with at least one of said computers <u>a plurality of</u> ~~one or more~~ suggestions that are based on said received proposals and seek to provide <u>a corresponding plurality of</u> <u>potential resolutions</u> ~~at least one potential resolution~~ to the negotiation, <u>each of said suggestions</u> <u>providing a proposed value for each of the issues to be resolved</u>;

c)　　　　providing each of said suggestions to each of said parties <u>by displaying each of said</u> <u>suggestions on said at least one graphical interface</u>;

d)　　　　receiving in confidence in at least one of said computers from each of said parties <u>through said at least one graphical interface</u> an indication as to whether that party accepts one or more of said suggestions; and

e)　　　　generating an indication <u>on said at least one graphical interface</u> with at least one of said computers that said parties have reached an agreement if all said parties accept one or more of the same said suggestions, but if not, generating an indication <u>on said at least one graphical</u> <u>interface</u> with at least one of said computers that said parties have not reached an agreement.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said proposals for agreement are accompanied by information defining each party's preferences on the outcome of the one or more issues, and said ~~one or more~~ suggestions generated by at least one of said computers are also based on said preferences and define said suggestions in terms of a specified level of satisfaction for each party on each issue according to said preferences.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of generating <u>a plurality of</u> ~~one or more~~ suggestions based on said received proposals further comprises generating said <u>plurality of</u> ~~one or more~~ suggestions based on ~~other previously generated~~ suggestions <u>that have been previously generated by said at least one computer</u>.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of receiving in at least one of said computers one or more proposals for agreement from each of said parties in said negotiation regarding the one or more issues to be resolved further includes receiving in at least one of said computers from any party to the negotiation, private suggestions that are indistinguishable from said suggestions that are computer generated; and said step of providing each of said suggestions to said parties comprises providing each of said computer generated suggestions and each of said private suggestions to said parties.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said negotiation includes multiple issues to be resolved and said method further includes the step of entering into at least one of said computers through said <u>at least one</u> graphical interface, tradeoff preference information that defines the relative importance to each of the parties for each of the issues <u>to be resolved in said negotiation</u>.

24-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) The computer-based method of claim 18, wherein a plurality of independent, separate computer systems is provided, one each for each of said parties, each said independent, separate computer system being programmed to receive and process information from each party, including that pertaining to each of said party's preferences on the outcome of each said issue involved in said negotiation; and

a central computer system located at a neutral site is provided that is programmed to receive preference information from each of said independent, separate computer systems, generate <u>said plurality of suggestions</u> ~~at least one suggestion~~ for agreement in response to entered preference information from each of said independent, separate computer systems, and securely transmit generated information ~~and other information~~ to be communicated between parties; wherein, the information pertaining to each of said party's preferences remains confidential to each party.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the step of receiving in at least one of said computers one or more proposals for agreement from each of said parties in said

negotiation regarding the one or more issues to be resolved further includes receiving in at least one of said computers from any party to the negotiation, private suggestions that are indistinguishable from said suggestions that are computer generated; and said step of providing each of said suggestions to said parties comprises providing each of said computer generated suggestions and each of said private suggestions to said parties.